

Federación Española
de Universidades Populares



Excmo. Ayuntamiento
Calzada de Calatrava



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CATALAN INTEGRAL COOPERATIVE

Co-operative and collectivizing network beyond
capitalism

About the Catalan Integral Cooperative



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- As well as developing and using an alternative economic system, CIC works to construct a cooperative public system based on the common good
- CIC aims to support self-managed activities, limiting the conditions and interventions of the state and capitalist logic. It proposes and works towards a society where people can organize their lives beyond governments and capital.

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- **Catalana**, because it organises itself and functions principally within Catalan territory.”



Enric DuRan



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Spain's 'Robin Hood' swindled banks to help fight capitalism

Enric Duran in hiding and unapologetic after obtaining dozens of loans and handing out money to social activists



1,708

This article is 3 years old

Ashifa Kassam in Madrid

Sunday 20 April 2014 18.58 BST

They call him the Robin Hood of the banks, a man who took out dozens of loans worth almost half a million euros with no intention of ever paying them back. Instead, Enric Duran farmed the money out to projects that created and promoted alternatives to capitalism.

Objectives for the community

- Ensure that everyone can meet their basic needs, each according to their capabilities.
- Build from below a society beyond capitalism, self-managing the coverage of basic needs such as housing, work, health and education.



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Member: "I grow an orchard and I practically do not buy food in euros: I buy everything I need in ecoxarxa (eco-networks) and through CIC with the ECOs I get from the sale of vegetables"

Internal Organisation

- Open assemblies are held bi-weekly
- 6 “hubs” maintain CIC’s ongoing functions



Decision-making

- The decision-making process is as decentralized as possible, prioritising autonomy, free will and the empowerment of the internal cooperatives
- Questions affecting CIC as a whole are discussed collaboratively in open assemblies and seminars. Decisions are then ideally made by consensus. If consensus is not initially reached, proposals can be reformulated and negotiated until everyone agrees
- Each internal independent group makes its own decisions, respecting CIC's framework and principles

General Principles

Economic Principles

- Addressing the needs of people above any other interest
- Everyone contributing according to their means
- Money as a measure of trade, without seeking accumulation
- Encouraging non-monetary forms of exchange
- Establishing economic relations between producers and consumers that meet the needs of both
- Interest-free cooperative banking (CASX)
- Alternative social currency (ECOs)

Social Principles

- Democracy: direct, deliberative, participative, transparent
- Self-management and decentralization
- Anti-materialism and environmental sustainability
- Cooperation and solidarity in social transformation
- Social justice and equity
- Equality in diversity
- Commitment and self-evaluation

CIC's current systems

Elements of the Economic System

- Self employment
- Auto-Financing
- Economic Disobedience
- Social Currency

Elements of the Cooperative Social System

- Science and Technology
- Health
- Education
- Housing
- Transport

Cooperative Social System

- **Housing:** aims to recover collective and community housing, urban or rural. Going beyond private property, recovering communal housing by collectivization, covering our actual housing needs. Therefore, we are developing a model that guarantees the right of use, without speculation and commodification of housing.

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- **Education:** total reform of the way we think about formal education – collective, lifelong teaching and learning
- **Science & tech:** making both more publically accessible, tech development through cooperatives, sustainability focus
- **Health:** self-managed, preventative health, focusing on quality of life rather than binary states of “sick” and “well”, covering material and non-material needs communally

CIC's current economic system

1. Economic
Disobedience

2. Auto-
Financing

3. Self
employment

4. Social
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1. Economic Disobedience

- A form of civil disobedience that aims to reduce or eliminate private and/or state economic power over communities and individuals
- CIC has set up Economic Disobedience Offices (ODE) where people with disobedient intentions share their concerns and knowledge. They are intended to be “places of collective learning through mutual support and cooperation”. They exist as physical spaces in different regions as well as on a virtual level.

1. Economic Disobedience examples

- Social housing cooperatives
- Collectively buying unpaid debt
- Tax resistance
- Insolvency (not paying debt)

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- Cash can be deposited at AureaSocial in Barcelona
- So far, all CASX staff are volunteers

2. Auto-financing: CASX

Project Approval Procedure

Applicants: Self-managed individuals/groups with environmentally sustainable projects for social purposes and for the benefit of the common good

- a. The proposal is presented at a general meeting
- b. A technical committee studies, evaluates and presents a document of conclusions
- c. The general assembly makes the final decision

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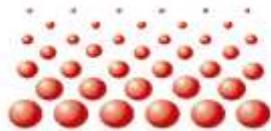
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- It works better in smaller communities. Each eco-network has its own social currency as well as access which can also be used with IntegralCES

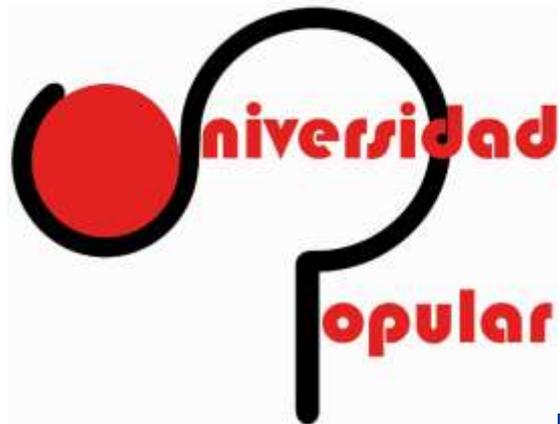


"If we were all aware of the advantages that a cooperative has when its purpose is not to profit from it but to live from your work, there would be many more cooperative projects"

Gema Palamós, CIC legal team



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